The Historic Roxbury Presbyterian Church USA

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth do you perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:18,19 (NRSV)



So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new!

II Corinthians 5:17 (NRSV)

Rev. H. Eugene Hamilton Senior Pastor

Senior Fasior

Jane Bailey Clerk of Session

Jackie Lewis-Thompson Chairperson of Trustees

December 10, 2005

John B. Sullivan Bilt-Rite Construction, Inc. 150 Shirley St. Boston, MA 02119

Dear John:

It is my absolute delight to formally inform you that on Saturday, December 24, 2005, the Roxbury Presbyterian Church family (RPC) will be re-entering the newly renovated Historic Roxbury Presbyterian Church Building – God be praised! On that glorious evening, our congregation and friends will leave the Eliot Church of Roxbury (56 Dale Street) at 5:45p.m. and march back into our home.

Our Service of Worship and Thanksgiving will begin at 6:00 p.m. During this time of worship and celebration in the tradition of Christmas, we will give thanks that our long season of waiting (Advent) will be over. This service of joy will be followed by wonderful party in our new fellowship and educational hall downstairs. During this special time of fellowship, the RPC will celebrate with our friends, <u>Construction Workers</u>, Project Manager, Capital Campaign Administrative team, Architect and so many others who, like you, believed and invested in us from across this Commonwealth. The following day, we will celebrate the birth of our Lord with one service of worship starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. For us, it will indeed, be a Merry Christmas. Please consider this letter as an official invitation to you and your family for both Christmas Eve and Christmas Sunday Morning.

John, I am writing you this personal letter, rather than sending you an invitational card because I want to take this opportunity to say thank you. We would not be celebrating this Christmas Miracle without you and your company's amazing sacrifice, support, generosity and hard work. Thank you – for being a critical part to an answered prayer for so many.

John, I do not want to over spiritualize, but it is clear to me that God chose you and your company to do this work. If you remember, we had initially contracted with Muckles, but surprisingly due to their inability to fulfill the contractual obligations, we came to you. When we hired you, I never could have imagined what a gift you and your company would be to the Roxbury Presbyterian Church. Very few companies would have stuck with such a long and complicated process, working diligently to resolve the endless streams of horrific catastrophes, while maintaining the highest level of excellence in work and commitment. Thank you.

More astonishing is that through this grueling process you have been willing to make significant financial concessions (i.e. contributions) to move this project to its conclusion. Thank You.

I am convinced that God chose you to do this work, and through you and your companies' commitment we are on the verge of completing a beautiful building that will stand for the next century as evidence that, "God is able to do immeasurably more than we can Imagine or ask" (Eph. 3:20 NIV).

I am also convinced that you and your companies will experience the blessings of God in amazing ways in the years to come, due to the faithfulness you have demonstrated with this particular project. In the mean time, I hope to see you on Christmas Eve, and celebrate with you and your family this wonderful Christmas Miracle. God be praised for the great things He has done and will continue to do through you, your company, the RPC family and beyond!

With Lasting Appreciation,

Pastor of Roxbury Presbyterian Church USA